

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 12 , 13, and 15-21 have been allowed by the Examiner.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the helpful remarks of the Examiner in a brief telephone discussion held on December 3, 2009, in which the following amendments to the specification were discussed and agreed upon.

The application is amended herein in response to a Notice of Drawing Inconsistency with the Specification. In particular, Figure 1C is contained in the drawings but not listed in the Brief Description of the Drawings in the specification. Applicant has amended the specification to include a brief description of Figure 1c in the Brief Description of the Drawings, and to refer to Figure 1C on page 12 of the specification. No new matter is added by this amendment.

Conclusion

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

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No fees are believed to be due at this time. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 50-4189, referencing Attorney Docket No. 45201-011US1.

Respectfully submitted,

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